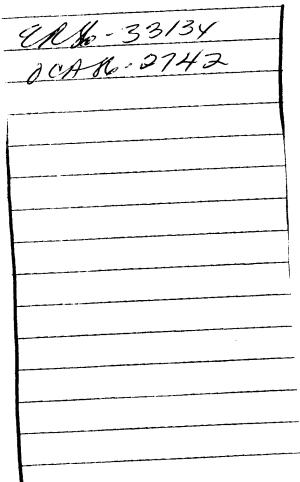
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EDWARD F. FEIGHAN

19TH DISTRICT, OHIO

MEMBER: COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY



1223 LONGWORTH BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 202-225-5731

2951 FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING 1240 EAST NINTH STREET CLEVELAND, OH 44199 216-522-4382

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

July 18, 1986

Executive Registry

86-3313X

The Honorable William J. Casey Director of Central Intelligence Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

I am writing to request immediate action on behalf of the Sumu refugees kidnapped in Honduras by FDN forces. As you may know, I have been a vocal critic of the Administration's policy toward Nicaragua. My objections go beyond the basic issue of whether or not our policy violates international law. Considerations raised during the recent House debate on contra aid included the often brutal tactics of the contras, their targeting of civilians and now their leadership's questionable use of the previously appropriated \$27 million in humanitarian assistance.

My purpose is not to belabor those points. But in light of your defense of the contras' conduct and of the faith placed in the United Nicaraguan Opposition to address all these concerns, I am appalled that the kidnapping of the 26 refugees remains uncontested and unresolved after more than seven weeks. As you know, these refugees were taken from their settlement in Honduras on May 24, despite efforts by the UNHCR to protect the camp. I understand that they are still being held by an FDN unit led by Ampinio Palacios.

As a member of the UNO, the FDN stands to be a significant beneficiary of military assistance approved by the Congress. Because of that relationship, the United States bears a heavy responsibility for actions by the FDN that constitute violations of international legal standards, or that result in the undue harassment or harm of innocent civilians. It is critical, therefore that the United States help ensure the safety of Hondurans who wish to remain neutral in the conflict between the contras and the Nicaraguan governemnt.

This situation warrants your immediate attention. I urge you to do everything you can to expedite the release of the Sumu refugees.

Sincerely,

EDWARD F. FELGMAN Member of Congress

EFF/res

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